

POL

The wisdom of this world is sometimes taken in scripture for policy, and consists in a certain dexterity of managing business for a man's secular advantage.

3. [Polisa, Spanish.] A warrant for money in the publick funds.

To POLISH. *v. a.* [polir, Lat. *polir*, Fr.]

1. To smooth; to brighten by attrition; to gloss.

He fetcheth to finish his work, and *polisheth* it perfectly. *Ecclesiastical*

Pygmalion, with fatal art,

Polish'd the form that stung his heart. *Gravill*

2. To make elegant of manners.

Studious they appear

Of arts that *polish* life, inventors rare. *Milton*

Did soft science *polish* Britain's heroes. *Irene*

To POLISH. *v. n.* To answer to the act of polishing; to receive a gloss.

It is reported by the ancients, that there was a kind of steel,

which would *polish* almost as white and bright as silver. *Bacon*

POLISH. *n. f.* [poli, *polishure*, Fr. from the verb.]

1. Artificial gloss; brightness given by attrition.

Not to mention what a huge column of granite cost in the quarry, only consider the great difficulty of heaving it into any form, and of giving it the due turn, proportion and *polish*.

Another prism of clearer glass and better *polish* seemed free from veins. *Newton's Opticks*

2. Elegance of manners.

What are these wondrous civilizing arts,

This Roman *polish*, and this smooth behaviour,

That render man thus tractable and tame? *Addison's Cato*

POLISHABLE. *adj.* [from *polish*.] Capable of being polished.

POLISHER. *n. f.* [from *polish*.] The person or instrument that gives a gloss.

I consider a human soul without education, like marble in the quarry, which shews none of its inherent beauties, till the skill of the *polisher* fetches out the colours. *Addison*

POLITE. *adj.* [politus, Latin.]

1. Glossy; smooth.

Some of them are diaphanous, shining and *polite*; others not *polite*, but as if powder'd over with fine iron dust. *Woodward*

If any sort of rays, falling on the *polite* surface of any pellucid medium, be reflected back, the fits of easy reflexion, which they have at the point of reflexion, shall still continue to return. *Newton's Opticks*

The edges of the sand holes, being worn away, there are left all over the glass a numberless company of very little convex *polite* things like waves. *Newton's Opticks*

2. Elegant of manners.

A nymph of quality admire our knight,

He marries, bows at court, and grows *polite*. *Pope*

POLITELY. *adv.* [from *polite*.] With elegance of manners; genteely.

POLITENESS. *n. f.* [politesse, Fr. from *polite*.] Elegance of manners; gentility; good breeding.

I have seen the dullest men aiming at wit, and others, with as little pretensions, affecting *politeness* in manners and discourse. *Swift*

POLITICAL. *adj.* [πολιτικός.]

1. Relating to politics; relating to the administration of publick affairs.

More true *political* wisdom may be learned from this single book of proverbs, than from a thousand Machiavel. *Rogers*

2. Cunning; skilful.

POLITICALLY. *adv.* [from *political*.]

1. With relation to publick administration.

2. Artfully; politickly.

The Turks *politically* mingled certain Janizaries, harque-buffers with their horsemen. *Knolles's History of the Turks*

POLITICASTER. *n. f.* A petty ignorant pretender to politics:

There are quacks of all sorts; as bullies, pedants, hypocrites, empiricks, law jobbers and *politicians*. *L'Estrange*

POLITICIAN. *n. f.* [politicien, Fr.]

1. One versed in the arts of government; one skilled in politics.

Get thee glass eyes,

And, like a scurvy *politician*, seem

To see things thou dost not. *Shakespeare. King Lear*

And 't be any way, it must be with valour; for policy I hate: I had as lief be a Brownist as a *politician*. *Shakespeare*

Although I may seem less a *politician* to men, yet I need no secret distinctions nor evasions before God. *King Charles*

While empirick *politicians* use deceit,

Hide what they give, and cure but by a cheat,

You boldly show that skill, which they pretend,

And work by means as noble as your end. *Dryden*

Coffee, which makes the *politician* wife,

And see through all things with his half-shut eyes,

Sent up in vapours to the baron's brain

Nëw stratagem, the radiant lock to gain. *Pope*

2. A man of artifice; one of deep contrivance.

Your ill-meaning *politician* lords,

Under pretence of bridal friends and guests,

Appointed to await me thirty spikes. *Milton*

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If a man succeeds in any attempt, though undertook with never so much rashness, his success shall vouch him a *politician*, and good luck shall pass for deep contrivance; for give any one fortune, and he shall be thought a wife man. *South*

POLITICK. *adj.* [πολιτικός.]

1. Political; civil. In this sense *politick* is almost always used, except in the phrase *body politick*.

Virtuously and wisely acknowledging, that he with his people made all but one *politick* body, whereof himself was the head; even so cared for them as he would for his own limbs. *Sidney, l. ii*

No civil or *politick* constitutions have been more celebrated than his by the best authors. *Templ*

2. Prudent; versed in affairs.

This land was famously enrich'd

With *politick* grave counsel; then the king

Had virtuous uncles. *Shakespeare. Richard III*

3. Artful; cunning. In this sense *politick* is not used.

I have trod a measure; I have flatter'd a lady; I have been

politick with my friend, smooth with mine enemy. *Shakespeare*

Authority followeth old men, and favour youth; but for the moral part, perhaps youth will have the preeminence, as age hath for the *politick*. *Bacon*

No less alike the *politick* and wife,

All fly slow things, with circumspect eyes;

Men in their loose unguarded hours they take. *Pope*

POLITICKLY. *adv.* [from *politick*.] Artfully; cunningly.

Thus have I *politickly* begun my reign,

And 'tis my hope to end successfully. *Shakespeare*

'Tis *politickly* done,

To send me packing with an host of men. *Shakespeare*

The dutchess hath been most *politickly* employed in disposing those arms with which the subdued you. *Pope*

POLITICKS. *n. f.* [politiques, Fr. *πολιτικα*.] The science of government; the art or practice of administering publick affairs.

Be pleas'd your *politicks* to spare,

I'm old enough, and can myself take care. *Dryden*

It would be an everlasting reproach to *politicks*, should such men overturn an establishment formed by the wisest laws, and supported by the ablest heads. *Addison*

Of crooked counsels and dark *politicks*. *Pope*

POLITURE. *n. f.* [politures, Fr.] The gloss given by the act of polishing.

POLITY. *n. f.* [πολιτεία.] A form of government; civil constitution.

Because the subject, which this position concerneth, is a form of church government or church *polity*, it behoveth us to consider the nature of the church, as is requisite for men's more clear and plain understanding, in what respect laws of *polity* or government are necessary thereunto. *Hobbes*

The *polity* of some of our neighbours hath not thought it beneath the publick care, to promote and reward the improvement of their own language. *Lacke on Education*

POLL. *n. f.* [polle, *pol*, Dutch, the top.]

1. The head.

Look if the withered elder hath not his *poll* claw'd like a parrot. *Shakespeare. Henry IV. p. ii*

2. A catalogue or list of persons; a register of heads.

Have you a catalogue

Of all the voices that we have procur'd,

Set down by th' *poll*. *Shakespeare. Coriolanus*

The muster file, rotten and sound, amounts not to fifteen thousand *poll*. *Shakespeare*

3. A fish called generally a chub. A chevin.

To POLL. *v. a.* [from the noun.]

1. To lop the top of trees.

The oft cutting and *polling* of hedges conduces much to their lasting. *Bacon's Natural History*

May thy woods oft *poll'd* yet ever wear

A green, and, when the list, a golden hair. *Dante*

2. In this sense is used *poll'd* sheep.

Poll'd sheep, that is sheep without horns, are reckoned the best breeders, because the ewes year the *poll'd* lamb with the least danger. *Mortimer's Husbandry*

3. To pull off hair from the head; to clip short; to shear.

Neither shall they have, only *poll* their heads. *Exekiel*

4. To mow; to crop.

He'll go and fowle the porter of Rome gates by th' ears: he will mow down all before him, and leave his passage *poll'd*. *Shakespeare. Coriolanus*

5. To plunder; to strip; to pill.

They will *poll* and spoil too outrageously, as the very enemy cannot do much worse. *Spenser on Ireland*

Take and exact upon them the wild exactions, coime, livery and forebore, by which they *poll* and utterly undo the poor tenants. *Spenser on Ireland*

He told the people, that subsidies were not to be granted nor levied for wars in Scotland; for that the law had provided another course by service of escheage, much less when war was made but a pretence to *poll* and pill the people. *Bacon*

POL

Neither can justice yield her fruit with sweetness, amongst the briars and brambles of catching and *polling* clerks and ministers. *Bacon*

4. To take a list or register of persons.

5. To enter one's name in a list or register.

Who ever brought to his rich daughter's bed,

The man that *poll'd* but twelve pence for his head? *Dryden*

6. To insert into a number as a voter.

In solemn conclave sit, devoid of thought,

And *poll* for points of faith his trusty vote. *Tickell*

POLLARD. *n. f.* [from *poll*.]

1. A tree lopped.

Nothing procureth the lasting of trees so much as often cutting; and we see all overgrown trees are *pollards* or dotards, and not trees at their full height. *Bacon*

2. A clipped coin.

The same king called in certain counterfeit pieces coined by the French, called *pollards*, crocans and rosaries. *Canden*

3. The chub fish.

POLLER. *n. f.* A fine powder, commonly understood by the word farina; as also a sort of fine bran. *Railly*

POLLINGER. *n. f.* Brushwood. This seems to be the meaning of this obsolete word.

Lop for thy few old *pollenger* grown,

That hinder the corn or the gralle to be mown. *Tusser*

POLLER. *n. f.* [from *poll*.]

1. Robber; pillager; plunderer.

The *poller* and exacter of fees justifies the resemblance of the courts of justice to the bush, whicunto while the sheep flies for defence, he loses part of the fleece. *Bacon's Essays*

2. He who votes or polls.

POLLIVIL. *n. f.* [poll and evil.]

Pollivil is a large swelling, inflammation or imposthume in the horse's poll or nape of the neck, just between the ears towards the mane. *Farrier's Dict*

POLLUCK. *n. f.* A kind of fish.

The coast is plentifully stored with shellfish, sea-hedgehogs, scallops; and flat, as round, pilcherd, herring and *polluck*. *Carew's Survey of Cornwall*

To POLLUTE. *v. a.* [polluto, Lat. *polluer*, Fr.]

1. To make unclean, in a religious sense; to defile.

Hot and peevish vows

Are *polluted* offerings, more abhor'd

Than spotted livers in the sacrifice. *Shakespeare*

2. To taint with guilt.

She woos the gentle air,

To hide her guilty front with innocent snow,

And on her naked shame,

Pollute with sinful blame. *Milton*

3. To corrupt by mixtures of ill.

Envy my praise, and would destroy

With grief my pleasures, and *pollute* my joy? *Dryden*

4. *Milton* uses this word in an uncommon construction.

Polluted from the end of his creation. *Milton*

POLLUTEDNESS. *n. f.* [from *pollute*.] Defilement; the state of being polluted.

POLLUTER. *n. f.* [from *pollute*.] Defiler; corrupter.

Even he, the king of men,

Fell at his threshold, and the spoil of Troy

The foul *polluters* of his bed enjoy. *Dryden's Aeneis*

POLLUTION. *n. f.* [pollution, Fr. *pollutio*, Latin.]

1. The act of defiling.

The contrary to consecration is *pollution*, which happens in churches by homicide, and burying an excommunicated person in the church. *Ayliffe's Purgation*

2. The state of being defiled; defilement.

Their strife *pollution* brings

Upon the temple. *Milton's Par Lost, b. xii*

POLLTRON. *n. f.* [polluce truncate, from the thumb cut off; it being once a practice of cowards to cut off their thumbs, that they might not be compelled to serve in war. *Saunders*

Menage derives it from the Italian *polltro*, a bed; as cowards feign themselves sick a bed: others derive it from *polltro* or *pollra*, a young unbroken horse.] A coward; a nidget; a scoundrel.

Patience is for *polltrons*.

They that are bruised with wood or fists,

And think one beating may for once

Suffice, are cowards and *polltrons*. *Hudibras, p. ii*

For who but a *polltron* pollit's with fear,

Such haughty insolence can tamely bear. *Dryden*

POLLUX. *n. f.* [pollux, Lat.] An herb.

POLY. [πολύ.] A prefix often found in the composition of words derived from the Greek, and intimating multitude: as,

polygon, a figure of many angles; *polyrhus*, an animal with many feet.

POLYCOU-TICK. *adj.* [πολύς and ἀκάν.] Any thing that multiplies or magnifies sounds. *Diect*

POLYANTHOS. *n. f.* [πολύς and ἄνθος.] A plant.

Great varieties of *polyanthos* are annually produced, and its flowers are so numerous on one stalk, and so beautifully striped, that they are not inferior to auriculas in beauty. *Miller*

POL

The daisy, primrose, violet darkly blue,
And *polyanthos* of unnumber'd dyes. *7th m.*

POLYEDRICAL. *adj.* [from πολύεδρος; *polyedre*, Fr.] Having many sides.

The protuberant particles may be spherical, elliptical, cylindrical, *polyedrical*, and some very irregular; and according to the nature of these, and the situation of the lucid body, the light must be variously effected. *Boyle*

A tubercle of a pale brown spot, had the exterior surface covered with small *polyedrous* crystals, pellucid, with a cast of yellow. *Woodward*

POLYGAMIST. *n. f.* [from *polygamy*.] One that holds the lawfulness of more wives than one at a time.

POLYGAMY. *n. f.* [polygamie, Fr. *πολυγαμία*.] Plurality of wives.

Polygamy is the having more wives than one at once. *Locke*

They allow no *polygamy*: they have ordained, that none do intermarry or contract, until a month be past from their first interview. *Bacon*

Christian religion, prohibiting *polygamy*, is more agreeable to the law of nature, that is, the law of God, than mahometism that allows it; for one man, his having many wives by law, signifies nothing, unless there were many women to one man in nature also. *Gravill*

POLYGLOT. *adj.* [πολύγλωττος; *polyglotte*, Fr.] Having many languages.

The *polyglot* or linguist is a learned man. *Howell*

POLYGON. *n. f.* [polygone, Fr. *πολύς* and *γωνία*.] A figure of many angles.

He began with a single line; he joined two lines in an angle, and he advanced to triangles and squares, *polygons* and circles. *Watts's Improvement of the Mind*

POLYGONAL. *adj.* [from *polygon*.] Having many angles.

POLYGRAM. *n. f.* [πολύς and γραμμα.] A figure consisting of a great number of lines. *Diect*

POLYGRAPHY. <